



MAYOR DEKE COPENHAVER

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Press Release

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**Re: MAYOR COPENHAVER TO PRESENT GENERAL PERRY M.
SMITH KEY TO THE CITY**

Mayor Deke Copenhaver will present General Perry M. Smith a key to the city at a presentation this afternoon.

"General Smith's commitment to serving our great city and our community as a whole through his multitude of civic endeavors has been an inspiration to me personally as I know it has been many others," comments Mayor Copenhaver. "It is my great pleasure to present Perry with a key to the city as his selfless service has had a major and lasting impact on the City of Augusta for generations to come."

General Smith will also have a new road at the Airport named after him. General Smith's biography is listed below. For more information, please contact Karyn Nixon at knixon@augustaga.gov.

Perry M. Smith was born in 1934 at West Point, N.Y., and graduated from Highland Falls (N.Y.) High School in 1952. As the son of an Army officer, he traveled extensively through this country during his youth – including Hawaii from 1940 to 1942, where he was a witness to the Pearl Harbor attack.

He is a 1956 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, and in 1967 earned a doctorate in international relations from Columbia University in New York City. He graduated from the National War College in 1971. He commanded the F-15 fighter wing at Bitburg Germany from 1978 to 1979. He served at Udorn, Thailand, with the 555th (Triple Nickle) Tactical Fighter Squadron. While there, he flew 180 missions and had 370 combat hours in F-4D's. From 1983-1986 he was commandant of the National War College.

In retirement he has resided in Augusta, the home town of his wife Connor Dyess Smith. He has been active in assisting the Boy Scouts in fund raising and developing new facilities, and has been chair of the Augusta Museum of History. Gen. Smith has been an active and valuable member of the Augusta Kiwanis Club. He has served on the board of directors, given the club an annual briefing on world affairs, and has been one of the most effective recruiters of new members. In recognition of his service and leadership to the club and the community, the club awarded him its prestigious George Barrett award.

He has served as senior warden of St. Paul's Church, where he was instrumental in the building of the River Room, and has been a regular contributor to the Fort Gordon Campus of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College as a guest speaker. He was a key fundraiser for the Fisher House at the Charlie Norwood VA. On the national scene, Gen. Smith is a sought-after speaker, a former military analyst for CNN and a proud member and secretary of the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation.

Gen. Smith has also become a prolific writer, particularly on leadership. He is a frequent op-ed contributor to *The Augusta Chronicle* and has authored the following books:

Rules & Tools for Leaders

Assignment Pentagon: How to Excel in a Bureaucracy,

The Air Force Plans for Peace, 1943-1945

How CNN Fought the War: A View from the Inside

Creating Strategic Vision: Long-Range Planning for National Security

A Hero Among Heroes: Jimmie Dyess and the 4th Marine Division